

Breakout Room 3 Participants

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Homework: Please share what you would like to see in a draft recommendation, or what you have already shared in a draft recommendation, regarding prerequisites and screening, test content, and test quality.

- DSHS should provide resources to support testers on language proficiency (Language Testing International (LTI) and private companies) to help prepare them for passing the test and testing efficiency
- Proficiency in English or bilingual? (Clarifying the question)
- Currently provided remotely; test-takers from many places
- National test may differ from Washington State test regarding policy and procedure
- To support incoming testers, DSHS should create a registry of trainers who have prepared for and passed the certification testing process to support sustainability of the interpreter industry
- Expand capacity to serve communities more efficiently by including less represented languages and specified agencies/areas of focus as testing options, i.e., include endorsements that meet requirements for multiple agencies
- Include either prerequisite training for Washington State specifically at the beginning or at the end of the “standardized” training process
- Provide less complicated access to test-prep resources
- Create/identify an English proficiency program to include reading (medical, health, rights, insurance, billing, history, etc.) as a prerequisite option
- Medical interpreter training in Washington State that includes cultural sensitivity, terminology, etc.
- The format impacts the outcome. Reading comprehension is a barrier. Consider revising
- Look at training and certification processes in other countries to consider implementing similar processes

- Other countries provide tests/exams in their own languages, for example the European Union, China, and other countries. Consider using those tests instead of creating the Americanized versions
- There are currently two test filters: Heritage Language Assessment and certification of additional language(s)
- Onboard a needed language quickly in response to emergencies, such as a sudden influx in refugee communities
- Improve training format to include scenarios/practice, medical terminology, etc.
- Please refer to saved chat comments as well

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